

NEWS BRIEFS

November 30, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Fremont Giving Hope Holiday Program

Help Needed for People in Need

Holidays are supposed to be a time of joy and celebration, yet for some people they are anything but. The truth is that this time of the year is very hard on some of the most vulnerable in our community—those seniors, families, and youth who are socially isolated, in the midst of a crisis, and experiencing severe poverty.

Giving Hope is a reminder that our community cares

Giving Hope is intended to help raise the spirits of community members in need by providing gifts and grocery cards to help lift the spirits of children, seniors, and families who are struggling. The program also provides low-income seniors with supplies and treats for their much loved furry and feathered companions. Also, every effort is made to make sure that children and students supported by the program have the learning supplies they need to succeed.



Help us make the 2018 effort a success

Giving Hope is a community partnership with the City of Fremont Human Services Department. City staff identifies people in need of extra support and cheer, and creates wish lists for each individual and family identified. Then the community donates the funds and resources and time to provide the much needed items. For donors, and everyone involved in the effort, it's an opportunity to help others who are in desperate need of support and cheer.

Giving Hope shows the neediest in our community that they are not forgotten

This program is unique. For nearly 20 years, every dollar raised and every gift donated has gone directly to help someone in need—there are no added administrative costs. The program started as a City of Fremont giving program, with City employees reaching into their pockets each winter to provide funds used to buy grocery cards for local seniors in need. In 2009, support grew and pushed the program to a new level by also recruiting donors from the local community, businesses, and organizations. The added resources allowed the program to begin serving families, seniors with pet companions, and children and teens.

Additionally, fundraisers such as a recent benefit concert in Niles, along with generous donations from the business community, have allowed Giving Hope to grow each year.

Giving Hope needs donations of cash and gifts, as well as people to sponsor a senior or family

Giving Hope donors help in many ways. Some donate cash. Some organizations sponsor a family or multiple families. Some businesses create gift baskets for a group of seniors. Currently, Giving Hope needs it all.

To sponsor a family and/or senior, view the Stories and Wish Lists at www.Fremont.gov/GivingHope, and follow instructions to be matched.

To donate financially, please contribute at www.Fremont.gov/HSDonate.

Contributions are tax deductible to extent allowable by law.

For more information about Giving Hope, please contact Jane O'Hollaren, Fremont Family Resource Center, at 510-574-2026 or johollaren@fremont.gov or Monica Dominguez, City of Fremont Senior Services, at 510-574-2057 or mdominguez@fremont.gov.

Save-the-Date for Homeless Count 2019

The County of Alameda conducts a homeless count once every two years to retain and improve Alameda County's funding for homeless services and meet federal data reporting requirements. It also increases community understanding of homelessness, and informs strategic, program, and policy planning.



The next biennial county-wide homeless count will take place on Wednesday, January 30, 2019. Once again, the City of Fremont will lead the coordination effort in the South County and is looking for volunteers to participate in this important event. Volunteers will work alongside formerly or currently homeless guides to count the number of homeless individuals in the South County.

Preliminary details for the homeless count include the following: It takes place in the early morning from 5 a.m. to 10 a.m. on Wednesday, January 30, 2019 within the South County limits. Volunteers will receive specific assignments the day of the count. The deployment center location is the Fire Department Training Classroom, located at 3300 Capitol Ave., Building A in the rear entrance. One hour of training will be given the week of January 14th (exact date and time TBD). An online training will be available for volunteers who are unable to attend in-person training. Participation in this year's homeless count includes a five to six hour total time commitment.

For questions or to sign up to volunteer for the count, visit www.Everyonehome.org/Everyone-Counts.

Thank You, Fremont!

This Year's Make A Difference Day was a Huge Success Thanks to Your Efforts

The City of Fremont salutes the more than 2,000 volunteers composed of Fremont individuals, families, clubs, schools, businesses, faith-based organizations, and nonprofit organizations that joined together for a “national day of doing good” on Saturday, October 27. The annual Make A Difference Day was sponsored by the City of Fremont Human Relations Commission, Cargill, Compassion Network, State Assembly Kansen Chu, Senator Bob Wieckowski, Supervisor Scott Haggerty, Mayor Lily Mei, Vice Mayor Raj Salwan and showcased Fremont residents serving their community in a variety of practical ways.

This year, 2,039 volunteers participated in over 85 planned projects throughout Fremont and contributed more than 7,505 volunteer hours!

Projects included:

- Tree planting and debris removal at Central Park
- Many school beautification projects
- Emergency pod organization
- Free bike repair clinic
- Mobile home park yard work
- Meals for the needy
- Drives to collect peanut butter, diapers, emergency snack kits, shoes, socks, and warm clothing
- Gardening
- Food bank/thrift store organizing
- Painting projects
- Shelter beautification
- Free tutoring
- Helping local seniors with fix-it projects
- Nature Learning Center gardening and craft prep
- Sabercat Historical Park habitat restoration
- Hand written cards for police officers and veterans

Also, special thanks to following groups for their commitment to making a difference in Fremont: Abode, American High School Students, Arise Church, Aspire Church, Bay Area Baptist Church, Bridges Community Church, Cabrillo Elementary School, Cedars Church, Central Park Maintenance and Rangers, City of Fremont, City of Fremont Youth and Family Services, Church of the Latter Day Saints, City of Newark, CityServe, Community Members, Compassion Network, Crossroads Church, Cub Pak 120, Cub Scout Pack 447, Discovery Cove Kids, Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose, Fremont Community Church, Fremont Residents, Fremont Senior Center, Fremont Unified School District, FUN Mothers' Club, Girl Scout Troop 31832, Harbor Light Church, Henifitness, Irvington Presbyterian, Islamic Center of Fremont, John Gomes Elementary School, Kids in Motion, Leaf C.R. Stone Garden, Living Stones Christian Church (East Bay),



Mattos Elementary School, Newark Mayor Alan Nagy, Mommy & Me group at Crossroads Church, Newark Residents, Niles Canyon Estates, Niles Discovery Church, Niles Rotary, Oliveira Elementary School, Patterson Elementary School PTA, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Resonate Church, Searles Elementary School, St. Paul United Methodist Church, Steven Millard Elementary School, Students, Sunrise Emergency Shelter, Teachers, Tree of Life Church, Tri-City Breakfast Program, Tri-City Volunteers, and Troop 112.

Check out the Make a Difference Day 2018 video for a glimpse into many of this year's projects at www.Fremont.gov/MakeaDiffDayVideo18.

Coming Up: Startup Grind Fremont – Crowdfunding

Startup Grind Fremont is back for another fireside chat on Thursday, December 6 from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. This time, learn about the prospects for crowdfunding. If you have a creative project that needs funding, raising money is easier when you find the right solution for doing so.



Hear from Jonny Price of Wefunder as he discusses crowdfunding tips and tricks. As Wefunder's director of business development, and a board seat with AEO (Association of Enterprise Opportunity), Jonny has unique insight in the practice of funding a project. Come listen, learn, and network with peers and colleagues.

Startup Grind Fremont is in its new location: Peerbuds Innovation Labs, located at 4580 Auto Mall Parkway Suite #121 in Fremont.

Startup Grind Fremont is the Silicon Valley East chapter of the international business startup community that has hosted more than 2,000 fireside chats across 200 cities and 85 countries! Every month or so, Fremont's local entrepreneurial community gets together to mix and mingle, hear from a featured speaker, find mentorship, pursue funding, and gain new customers.

Can't make it to this event? No problem. More events are scheduled for the near future. Find additional information and purchase tickets here: www.StartupGrind.com/Fremont.

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